

PATENTREMARKS

In response to the outstanding Office Action, dated July 28, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks.

In the outstanding Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 12-15, 18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15, 18, and 20 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections. Claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 has been amended to include an adhesive mat disposed between the decorative layer and a sandwich defined by the core layer and reinforcement layer such that before the shaping of the roof liner, the sandwich is warmed softening the adhesive mat by contact heat such that the decorative layer is joined securely to the sandwich. None of the cited references disclose such a adhesive mat softened by contact heat of a warmed core layer or reinforcement layer. With respect to now cancelled claim 18, the Examiner explicitly states that the Byma and Spengler references are silent to teaching an adhesive fleece mat. Note that the Juriga reference discloses the use of adhesive webs 40, 41, and 42, but does not teach or suggest an adhesive mat disposed between the decorative layer and a sandwich defined by the core layer and reinforcement layer such that before the shaping of the roof liner, the sandwich is warmed softening the adhesive mat by contact heat such that the decorative layer is joined securely to the sandwich. Instead, the Juriga reference teaches placing the laminae laid in a face-to-face relation with an adhesive web and then preheating the laminate in an oven to at least the glass transition temperature of the adhesive web. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Since claims 2-8, 10-12, 15-17, and 19-20 are dependent on claim 1, they also are patentable.

In view of the amendments and above remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Any fees due in connection with this Amendment should be charged to Deposit Account No. 13-0005.